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RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
EXAMINING GROUP 2600

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named  
Inventor : Philipp Heinz Schmid

Appln. No.: 09/751,836

Filed : December 29, 2000

For : MIDDLEWARE LAYER BETWEEN  
SPEECH RELATED APPLICATIONS  
AND ENGINES

Docket No.: M61.12-0323

Group Art Unit: 2655  
Examiner: M.J. Sked

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PAPER IS BEING  
SENT BY U.S. MAIL, FIRST CLASS, TO THE  
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450,  
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450, THIS

17<sup>th</sup> DAY OF March, 2006  
Chris Holt  
PATENT ATTORNEY

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed on  
February 16, 2006. Please amend the above-identified application  
as follows: